**Department of Posts' agreement with LA Poste of France**

3820. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Posts has entered into an agreement with La Poste of France and Emirates Posts to develop India as a hub for delivery of parcels in the sub-continent;

(b) if so, the details of such proposal/alliance/agreement;

(c) how the Government are using IT into its operations to increase the productivity and lower the costs;

(d) whether there is any proposal before Government for corporatising postal services in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. There are MOUs signed by India Post with LA POSTE and Emirates Post. While in the case of Emirates Post, there is a proposal to set up a hub in India for delivery of parcels in the sub-continent, in the case of the MOU with LA POSTE, there is no specific proposal relating to establishment of a hub in India.

(c) The Department of Posts has computerized post office counter operations in major post offices in the country by introducing computer based Multipurpose Counter Machines. Also satellite linked terminals have been installed to handle money orders. All these have speeded up counter transactions by increasing productivity, reduced transit time, accounting and manpower costs of the Department.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.